

Express Mail No. EV231274977US

Date of Deposit: December 16, 2003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

David G. Therrien et al.

Serial No.:

10/658,978

Filed:

September 10, 2003

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORAGE SYSTEM TO PROVIDE

DISTRIBUTED DATA STORAGE AND PROTECTION

Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit:

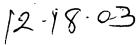
2186

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Sir/Madam:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.



Attorney Docket No. 25452-014



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## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application please find the following listed items:

- 1. Preliminary Amendment (3 pages); and
- 2. Return Postcard.

In connection with the foregoing matter, please charge any additional fees which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-0311, Reference 25452-014. A duplicate copy of this letter is provided for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Eric Schulman, Esq. (Reg. No. 43,350)

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. One Financial Center

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TRA 1862144

Dated: December 16, 2003